

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 COME-00  
EB-08 INR-10 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 SS-15 AF-10  
ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-11 NSCE-00 /106 W  
-----127575 261748Z /75  
O 261724Z MAY 78  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0154

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ILO, PLAB  
SUBJ: ILO: GOVERNMENT WORKING PARTY ON STRUCTURE

REF: STATE 133928

FROM AMBASSADOR VANDEN HEUVEL

1. I WAS INVITED TO ATTEND THE IMEC MEETING THIS MORNING TO DISCUSS THE MEMORANDUM WHICH IS THE SUBJECT OF THE DEPARTMENT'S REACTIONS IN REFTEL. THE FOLLOWING IS MY STATEMENT TO THE IMEC REPRESENTATIVES:
2. QUOTE. YOU ARE AWARE OF THE BASIC POSITION REGARDING STRUCTURE THAT HAS BEEN SUGGESTED BY MY GOVERNMENT. SIMPLY STATED, IT IS THAT REPRESENTATION ON THE GB SHOULD BE BY GEOGRAPHICAL REGION, THAT FOUR SUCH REGIONS - EUROPE, ASIA, AFRICA AND THE AMERICAS - SHOULD BE DESIGNATED AS THOSE REGIONS, THAT THEY SHOULD BE REPRESENTED EQUALLY, AND THAT THE GOVERNING FUNCTIONS OF THE GB SHOULD NOT BE MADE MORE DIFFICULT BY THE ENLARGEMENT OF ITS MEMBERSHIP.

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3. THE U.S. IS NOT A MEMBER OF THE ILO. THEREFORE, MY COMMENTS THIS MORNING ARE BECAUSE OF YOUR INVITATION TO RESPOND INFORMALLY TO A PROPOSAL REGARDING STRUCTURE WHICH YOU ARE CONSIDERING. I GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR INTEREST IN THE POSITION OF THE U.S. AND BELIEVE, AS YOU DO, THAT THE QUESTIONS YOU ARE CONSIDERING ARE FUNDAMENTAL TO ANY CONSIDERATION OF RETURN TO MEMBERSHIP BY MY

GOVERNMENT.

4. THERE ARE SEVERAL PRINCIPLES WHICH SHOULD WARRANT OUR COMMITMENT. AMONG THEM IS A DETERMINATION TO RESPECT THE UNIVERSAL CHARACTER OF THE ILO BY REFUSING TO ALLOW ANY IDEOLOGICAL IDENTIFICATION OF ITS INSTRUMENTALITIES. IT SHOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE TO ALL OF US TO ENSHRINE IN ANY OFFICIAL DOCUMENT, AS WELL AS IN OUR THINKING, THE CONCEPT THAT IDEOLOGICAL CRITERIA WILL DETERMINE WHICH NATIONS SHOULD BE REPRESENTED IN THE ILO. LET ME BE MORE PRECISE. THERE ARE CLEARLY NATIONS WHICH BY THE SIZE OF THEIR POPULATION AND THEIR ECONOMIC IMPACTS ON THE PROBLEMS OF LABOR SHOULD HAVE CONTINUING MEMBERSHIP IN THE ILO. SUCH A PRINCIPLE WOULD STRENGTHEN THE ILO BY COMMITTING THE REALITY OF POWER TO THE ASPIRATIONS OF ITS PROGRAM. EQUALLY TRUE, THERE MUST BE RECOGNITION OF THE DEVELOPING NATIONS OF THE WORLD SO THAT THE ILO IS RESPONSIVE TO THEIR NEEDS AND THEIR HOPES. PRESUMABLY, THE GEOGRAPHICAL REGIONS CAN WORK OUT WITHIN THEIR OWN INTERNAL STRUCTURE THE KIND OF ASSURANCE THAT GIVES MEANING TO SUCH REPRESENTATION.

5. IT IS DIFFICULT TO IMAGINE A STEP THAT WOULD POLITICIZE THIS ORGANIZATION MORE AND THEREBY ASSURE THE CONTINUED DISRUPTION THAT CAUSED THE U.S. TO LEAVE THE ILO THAN A CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE THAT ELEVATES IDEOLOGICAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IDENTIFICATION OF THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE GB TO THE LEVEL OF RECOGNITION REFLECTED IN THE MEMORANDUM SHOWN TO US.

6. I AM AWARE THAT VARIOUS SPECULATION REGARDING THE VIEWPOINT I HAVE JUST EXPRESSED IDENTIFIES IT AS AN ATTITUDE OF THE U.S. NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS. I ASSURE YOU THIS MORNING THAT THE U.S. SPEAKS AS A SINGLE VOICE ON THE MATTERS UNDER DISCUSSION. ALL OF US ARE DESIROUS THAT THE U.S. RETURN UNDER APPROPRIATE CONDITIONS TO THE ILO AND LOOK UPON THE IDEOLOGICAL DIRECTIONS BEING SUGGESTED AS HARMFUL TO OUR HOPES. END QUOTE. VANDEN HEUVEL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MEETINGS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, SPECIALIZED AGENCIES (UN)  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 26 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780223-0440  
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**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 78 STATE 133928  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Subject:** ILO: GOVERNMENT WORKING PARTY ON STRUCTURE  
**TAGS:** ELAB, US, ILO, IMEC, (HEUVEL, VANDEN)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014